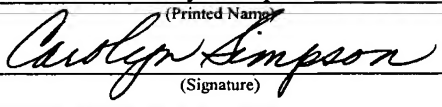


Atty. Dkt. No. 029815-0103

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Sweeney, Patrick J.
Title: VERTEBRAL PROSTHESIS
Appl. No.: 10/686,998
Filing Date: 10/16/2003
Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Art Unit: 3738

CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING	
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.	
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(Printed Name)	
	
(Signature)	

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present application, Applicant respectfully requests that the above-identified application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows:

08/13/2004 BSAYASI1 00000041 10686998

01 FC:2201 86.00 OP
02 FC:2202 189.00 OP